

# ARIZONA STATE SENATE

Fifty-Fifth Legislature, First Regular Session

### FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1381

## disability-selection abortion; prohibited

### <u>Purpose</u>

Prohibits specified acts related to disability-selection abortions and increases current penalties related to sex-selection and race-selection abortion.

#### **Background**

Statute classifies knowingly doing the following as a class 3 felony: 1) performing an abortion knowing that the abortion is sought based on the sex or race of the child or the race of the parent of the child; 2) using force or the threat of force to intentionally injure or intimidate any person for the purpose of coercing a sex-selection or race-selection abortion; or 3) soliciting or accepting monies to finance a sex-selection or race-selection abortion (A.R.S. § 13-3603.02).

A civil action may be brought on behalf of the unborn child by the father of an unborn child who is married to the mother at the time she receives a sex-selection or race-selection abortion. Additionally, if the mother is under 18 years old at the time of the abortion, the maternal grandparents of the unborn child may bring the action (A.R.S. § 13-3603.02).

A physician, physician's assistant, nurse, counselor or other medical or mental health professional who knowingly does not report known violations of the specified sex-selection or race-selection abortion prohibitions is subject to a civil fine of up to \$10,000 (<u>A.R.S. § 13-3603.02</u>).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

#### **Provisions**

- 1. Classifies, as a class 2 felony, knowingly:
  - a) performing an abortion knowing that the abortion is sought based on the disability of the child or the disability of a parent of the child;
  - b) using force or the threat of force to intentionally injure or intimidate any person for the purpose of coercing a disability-selection abortion; or
  - c) soliciting or accepting monies to finance a disability-selection abortion.
- 2. Allows the father of the unborn child who is married to the mother at the time she receives a disability-selection abortion, or the maternal grandparents if applicable, to bring a civil action on behalf of the unborn child.

- 3. Increases, from a class 3 felony to a class 2 felony, knowingly:
  - a) performing an abortion knowing that the abortion is sought based on the sex or race of the child or the race of the parent of the child;
  - b) using force or the threat of force to intentionally injure or intimidate any person for the purpose of coercing a sex-selection or race-selection abortion; and
  - c) soliciting or accepting monies to finance a sex-selection or race-selection abortion.
- 4. Increases, from \$10,000 to \$20,000, the maximum civil penalty for a physician, physician's assistant, nurse, counselor or other medical or mental health professional who knowingly does not report known violations of sex-selection, race-selection or disability-selection abortion to law enforcement.
- 5. Provides that a woman on whom a disability-selection abortion is performed is not subject to criminal prosecution or civil liability, as outlined.
- 6. Makes technical changes.
- 7. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

Prepared by Senate Research February 2, 2021 JA/gs